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SUMMARY OF COMMENTARY IN PRAVDA ON SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA
(November 22 - December 21, 1981)

January 1982

Prepared by the Federal Research Division of
the Library of Congress under an interagency agreement

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Rachel Warner

PREFACE

This monthly survey compiles articles on sub-Saharan Africa which appear in Pravda. It has been prepared since April 1980. Pravda is the official newspaper of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union. Items published are presumably authoritative. Articles dealing with Soviet political, military, or economic interests in Africa are entirely translated or extensively excerpted or summarized. News accounts which heavily rely on news services of other countries are simply noted. All entries have been arranged chronologically under general African or country headings. FBIS translations are summarized or annotated for reader reference; duplication is avoided.

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Summary of Commentary in Pravda on Sub-Saharan Africa
(22 November-21 December 1981)*

Africa General

Meeting on International Journal

(Summary) On 27 November a meeting was held in Prague to discuss the international journal of Communist and worker's parties, Problems of Peace and Socialism. The meeting was attended by delegates from 90 Communist and worker's parties, including those from the African nations of Angola, Benin, Lesotho, the Congo, Madagascar, Mozambique, Nigeria, Senegal, the Sudan, Ethiopia, and the Republic of South Africa. (28 Nov 81, p. 4)

Foreign Domination of Mass Media

(Excerpts) The West African regional news service All-African Information Agency (PANA), which began operations just this year, is a response, according to its director Y. Diallo, to the complete or partial dependence that the majority of African countries have on foreign press organizations and radio and television services, especially those in London, Washington, and Paris. (7 Dec 81, p. 6)

Solidarity Conference Opens

(Excerpt) The International Conference of Solidarity with the Struggling Arab and African Peoples opened in Luanda, Angola. Participants, numbering over 200 from more than 60 countries, represented political parties, public organizations, national-liberation movements [including the African National Congress and the South-West Africa People's Organization], the Organization of African Unity, the Arab League, and the Soviet Committee for Solidarity with the countries of Asia and Africa. In a declaration of solidarity issued at the conference, racist South Africa and its master, American imperialism, were condemned for their attempts to wreck the Angolan economy and the Namibian people's independence struggle. (8 Dec 81, p. 5)

Conference Work Continues

(Excerpt) The International Conference of Solidarity with the Struggling Arab and African Peoples, meeting in Angola, issued a unanimous statement in which the imperialistic and militaristic policies of the United States were singled out as the basic cause of tension in southern Africa, the Middle East, and in other regions of the world. (9 Dec 81, p. 1)

Solidarity Conference Concludes

(Excerpts) The International Conference of Solidarity with the Arab and African People ended in Angola. The results of the conference are reflected in documents unanimously approved by the participants, including the "Luandan Declaration," the "Program of Activities," and the "Concluding Communique," in which attention was drawn to the increasing American imperialist aggression and that of its allies, the Republic of South Africa and Israel. (11 Dec 81, p. 1)

*Includes the edition for 21 November not received in time for inclusion in the last issue but missing the editions of 19 and 21 December.

Food and Nutrition Conference

(Excerpt) Work concluded at the meeting of the combined regional African commission devoted to examining issues related to food and nutrition. Held in Accra, Ghana, and attended by participants from the UN's Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the World Health Organization (WHO), and the Organization of African Unity (OAU), the conference expressed particular alarm over the deteriorating food situation on the African continent. (15 Dec 81, p. 5)

Chinese Interests in Africa

Uranium Shipments to South Africa

[See citation under the Republic of South Africa for 27 Nov 81.]

Organization of African Unity

Appeal Against Ciskei Recognition

(Excerpt) The Organization of African Unity, in response to the attempts by the regime in Pretoria to grant "independence" to the bantustan of Ciskei, appealed to the international community not to recognize the puppet regime created by racist policies. (10 Dec 81, p. 5)

Southern Africa

Regional Alliance of Black Nations

(Excerpt) In the city of Blantyre in Malawi a conference, attended by independent southern African states including Malawi, Zambia, Lesotho, Swaziland, Botswana, Tanzania, Angola, Mozambique, and Zimbabwe, and representatives from Western powers and international organizations, was held aimed at coordinating the region's economic development and lessening the economic dependence on South Africa. (6 Dec 81, p. 5 and translated in toto by FBIS Soviet Union Daily Report #245, 22 Dec 81, pp. J1-2)

United States Interests in Africa

Bright Star Maneuvers

(Summary) The large American military maneuvers conducted in Africa and the Middle East in the countries of Egypt, Somalia, Oman, and the Sudan provided clear evidence of the overall military designs that the United States has on those areas of the world. In addition, the United States failed to raise the international significance of these countries that opened their territories to the maneuvers. (24 Nov 81, p. 5)

Jonas Savimbi in Washington

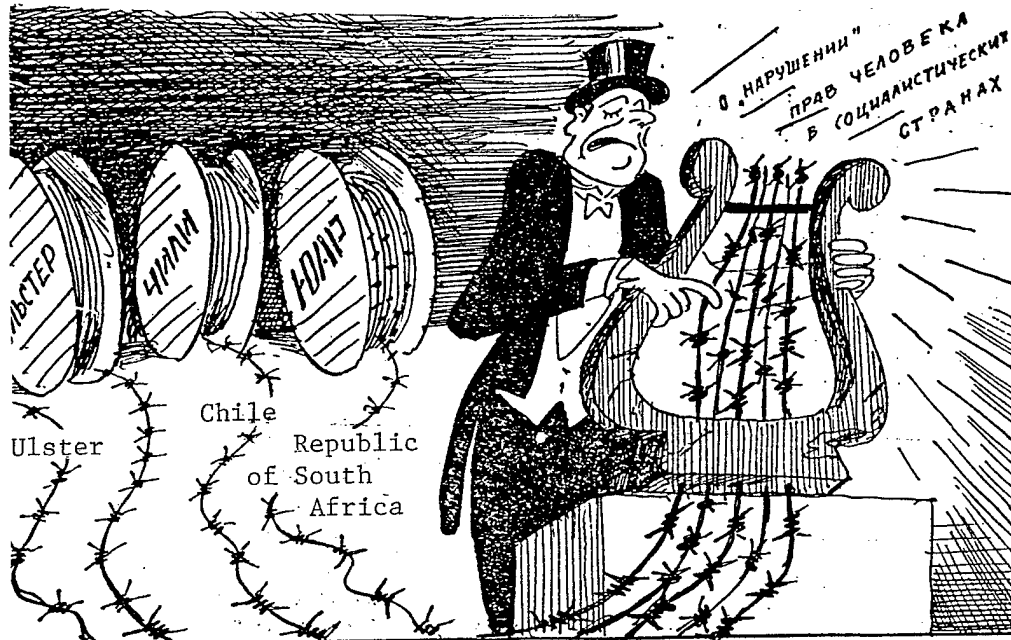
(Summary) In an article described as a retort, S. Vishnevsky characterizes the warm welcome given to J. Savimbi, the leader of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA), during his visit to Washington as stemming from the American admiration for bandits and gangsters such as Billy the Kid, Al Capone, and Bonnie and Clyde. (8 Dec 81, p. 5)

US Military Base in Comoros

(Excerpt) According to Indian press reports, the next target in the Indian Ocean for the imperialists in the United States is the Comoros Islands where American military planners hope to establish a large naval base. (10 Dec 81, p. 5)

US-South Africa

"Of human rights violations in socialist countries . . ."



Знакомый номер в клеветническом репертуаре.

Рис. Ю. Черепанова.

(A familiar number in the slanderous repertoire.)

(13 Dec 81, p. 5)

Angola

Medical Aid to Southern Angola

(Excerpt) An airplane took off from Prague to Luanda with a gift from the Universal Federation of Trade Unions to the Angolan people. On board were medicine, dressings, and medical equipment intended for the population of the southern regions of Angola who were victims of the recent aggression of racist South Africa. (30 Nov 81, p. 1)

Discussion in Worker's Party Plenary Session

(Summary) The participants of the Ninth Plenary Session of the Angolan Worker's Party discussed the first steps to be taken in the building of a new

society and the problems Angola faces economically and politically. They stated that urgent measures must be taken to increase the effectiveness of production in key areas of the economy and also declared Angola's full support for the people of Namibia and South Africa in their struggle for national liberation. (23 Nov 81, p. 4)

Brezhnev Message Regarding Sabotage

(Excerpt) L. Brezhnev sent a telegram to Angolan President J. dos Santos that stated: It was learned with indignation in the Soviet Union about an act of sabotage at the oil refinery in Luanda. The enemies of Angola are doing everything to hamper its independent development. (5 Dec 81, p. 1)

MPLA Anniversary Celebrated

(Excerpt) The Angolan people celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the founding of the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA) and the 4th Anniversary of its transformation into the MPLA-Worker's Party, guided by the principles of Marxism-Leninism. (10 Dec 81, p. 1)

Legislative Session Begins

(Excerpt) President J. dos Santos opened the 4th session of the People's Assembly of Angola that is expected to consider the state budget for 1982. (18 Dec 81, p. 5)

Benin

Interparty Ties

(Excerpt) In accordance with plans for closer ties between the Soviet Communist Party and the Benin People's Revolutionary Party (BPRP), a delegation of the BPRP led by P. Osho, Deputy Chairman of the Permanent Commission of the Central Committee, toured the Soviet Union from 21 November to 3 December. (4 Dec 81, p. 4, and translated in toto by FBIS Soviet Union Daily Report #239, 14 Dec 81, p. J1)

East German Industrial Management

(Excerpt) A seminar dealing with the questions surrounding the management of state industrial enterprises ended in the capital of Benin. The seminar had been conducted within the framework of an exchange of views between the German Democratic Republic and Benin. (17 Dec 81, p. 1)

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Burundi

New Ambassador

(Excerpt) Pierre Naikumana, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Burundi, presented his credentials on 20 November at the Kremlin. (21 Nov 81, p. 4, and translated in toto by FBIS Soviet Union Daily Report #231, 2 Dec 81, p. J2)

Cape Verde

New Ambassador

(Excerpt) The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has appointed Comrade N. I. Seregin USSR Ambassador to the Republic of Cape Verde Islands. (22 Nov 81, p. 6, and translated in toto by FBIS Soviet Union Daily Report #231, 2 Dec 81, p. J2)

Chad

Antigovernment Forces in the East

(Summary) Detachments of former Defense Minister Habre seized a number of settlements in eastern Chad. Refugees from the area testify about plundering and repression. Habre has bases at his disposal in Sudan, receives weapons from Egypt, and money from the United States. (24 Nov 81, p. 5)

African Peacekeeping Forces

(Excerpt) The transitional government of National Unity of Chad and the Organization of African Unity (OAU) concluded an agreement on the conditions for the formulation and activities of combined African forces in the maintenance of peace in Chad. (30 Nov 81, p. 5)

High-Level Talks in Moscow

(Excerpt) On 8 December, A. Gromyko, Politburo Member and USSR Foreign Minister, met with Mahamat Nour Adam Barka, General Secretary of the Provisional Government of National Unity of the Republic of Chad, who is in Moscow at the head of a goodwill mission. An exchange of views on certain international problems took place, including the situation in central Africa and events surrounding Chad. (9 Dec 81, p. 4)

Government Military Operations

(Excerpt) It is reported that subunits of the Chad National Army have mounted a counteroffensive against the detachments of former Defense Minister

Habre with a view to liberating all Chadian territory held by his forces which operate out of the Sudan. (9 Dec 81, p. 5, and translated in toto by FBIS Soviet Union Daily Report #245, 22 Dec 81, p. J4)

Egyptian and Sudanese Involvement

(Excerpt) Ahmat Acyl, the Foreign Minister of the transitional government of National Unity of Chad, condemned Sudan and Egypt for their support of the splinter forces led by former Defense Minister Hissene Habre. The Foreign Minister also emphasized the importance that Chad intends to place on its relationship with Libya. (15 Dec 81, p. 5)

Splinter Forces Supported by the United States

(Summary) There are several mutinous groups obstructing national unity in Chad, foremost among them the forces led by Habre, Chad's former Defense Minister. The United States and Sudan actively support the efforts of these splinter forces. (16 Dec 81, p. 5)

Ethiopia

Speech to Worker's Party

(Summary) During the Third Regular Plenary Session of the Commission for Organizing a Worker's Party in Ethiopia (COPWE), Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam emphasized the necessity of strengthening the defense capability of the country for protecting revolutionary achievements. (21 Nov 81, p. 5)

Resolution of Worker's Party

(Summary) The Third Regular Plenary Session of the Commission for Organizing a Worker's Party in Ethiopia (COPWE) came to a close and resulted in a resolution calling on the citizens of Ethiopia to strive for peace and socialism, combine their efforts, and prepare for war against imperialism and reactionism which threaten to destroy the human race. (22 Nov 81, p. 4)

Educators Congress

(Summary) At a congress of the Association of Ethiopian Teachers, during which questions regarding the educating of the young generation of the country were discussed, it was decided that the goals to be accomplished involved the general raising of educational levels of the populace and the instilling of respect for labor and patriotism. (12 Dec 81, p. 5)

Condemnation of the United States

(Excerpt) Abdul Salam Jallud, one of the leaders of the Libyan Revolution, during a friendly visit to Ethiopia stated that the American administration has undertaken a course designed to undermine the national-liberation movement, to

subject the progressive sovereign nations to international tension, and to unleash military conflicts. (16 Dec 81, p. 5)

Birthday Greetings to Brezhnev

[Mengistu Haile Mariam, Chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council, sent L. I. Brezhnev greetings in connection with the latter's 75th birthday. (20 Dec 81, p. 5)]

Guinea-Bissau

Vacation in the USSR

(Text) On 28 November, J. Vieira, Chairman of the Council of the Revolution of the Republic of Guinea-Bissau, arrived in the Soviet Union for a short vacation. (29 Nov 81, p. 4)

Vieira At Lenin's Tomb

(Excerpt) On 2 December, J. Vieira, Chairman of the Council of the Revolution of the Republic of Guinea-Bissau, visited Lenin's Mausoleum where he laid a wreath. (3 Dec 81, p. 4)

Vieira-Ponomarev Talks

(Excerpts) A talk took place on 3 December between B. Ponomarev, Candidate Member of the Soviet Communist Party Politburo, and J. Vieira, General Secretary of the African Party for Independence in Guinea and Cape Verde (PAIGC) and President of the Council of the Revolution of the Republic of Guinea-Bissau. During the talk, which took place in a friendly atmosphere, President Vieira noted that the Republic of Guinea-Bissau attaches great significance to the further development and intensification of cooperation with the Soviet Union. (4 Dec 81, p. 4, and translated in toto by FBIS Soviet Union Daily Report #237, 10 Dec 81, p. J2)

Trade Talks

(Excerpt) I. Arkhipov, First Deputy Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, met with J. Vieira, Chairman of the Revolutionary Council of the Republic of Guinea-Bissau, and exchanged views on the development of trade and economic relations. (5 Dec 81, p. 4)

Vieira Departs USSR

(Excerpt) J. Vieira, Chairman of the Council of the Revolution of Guinea-Bissau, left Moscow on 5 December following a short vacation in the Soviet Union. (6 Dec 81, p. 4, and translated in toto by FBIS Soviet Union Daily Report #240, 15 Dec 81, p. J1)

Mauritania

Brezhnev Cable

(Excerpt) L. Brezhnev sent a message to Colonel Mohammed Khouna Ould Maydala, Head of State of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, conveying congratulations and wishes of happiness in connection with the country's national holiday--Independence Day. (9 Dec 81, p. 2)

Mozambique

Soviet Educational Assistance

(Excerpt) Mozambican officials praised the Soviet Union for assistance in training national cadres at a ceremony marking the graduation of the first class of students from a vocational school in Matola made possible by Soviet aid. (2 Dec 81, p. 4 and translated in toto by FBIS Soviet Union Daily Report #238, 11 Dec 81, p. J3)

Trade Ties Expanded

(Excerpt) Mozambique is expanding its trade ties with countries of the socialist community and this is having enormous significance for the development of the national economy and the liquidation of backward features inherited from the colonial period. (10 Dec 81, p. 4)

NRM Base Destroyed

(Excerpt) Military forces of the People's Republic of Mozambique destroyed a large military base of the so-called National Resistance Movement (NRM) at Garagua. The NRM is financed and supplied by the CIA and South Africa. (12 Dec 81, p. 5)

FRELIMO Plenum

(Excerpt) A plenary session of the Central Committee of the Front for the Liberation of Mozambique (FRELIMO) Party opened in Maputo. The participants approved resolutions dealing with the state budget and the development plan for 1982. (16 Dec 81, p. 5)

Namibia

Soviet Aid to SWAPO

5 (Excerpt) In response to the barbaric bombing of Namibian refugee camps by
4 South African military units, the Soviet Committee for Solidarity with the Coun-
3 tries of Asia and Africa and the Soviet Fund for Peace sent two plane loads of
2 material aid to Luanda, Angola for the South-West Africa People's Organization
1 (SWAPO). (5 Dec 81, p. 4, and translated in toto by FBIS Soviet Union Daily
0 Report #239, 14 Dec 81, p. J1)

Nujoma in Moscow

(Excerpt) B. Ponomarev, Candidate Member of the Politburo and Central Committee Secretary, conferred with S. Nujoma, President of the South-West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO), on 16 December. The SWAPO leader spoke of the struggle of Namibians for the withdrawal of South African occupational troops and the formation of an independent and democratic Namibia. (17 Dec 81, p. 4)

Republic of South Africa

Terrorism and Apartheid in South Africa

(Summary) In an article entitled "South Africa: Reactionism on the Defensive," A. Davidson discusses the terrorist activities of the Bureau of State Security (BOSS) which has been blamed for the murder of Nelson Mandela, the wide use of terrorism by numerous ultraright and fascist organizations, the plight of 2,000 citizens of bantustans arrested as illegal aliens, the growth of dissension in the Army, and the increasing flight of white farmers from rural communities. (24 Nov 81, p. 4)

Uranium from PRC

(Excerpts) As the Washington Post has reported, American officials are convinced that the recent mysterious deliveries of enriched uranium to South Africa were from China. China's leadership is strengthening the military potential of South Africa, which would like to keep the national liberation movements in Africa in nuclear "check". (27 Nov 81, p. 5, and translated in toto by FBIS Soviet Union Daily Report #233, 4 Dec 81, pp. J1-2)

Botha on Equal Rights

(Summary) South African Prime Minister Botha talks from time to time about equality and freedom for Africans. In a speech made public at the recent meeting of the National Party in the Transvaal, Botha asserted that the policies of South Africa are aimed at equal rights, equal opportunity, and equal pay for achievement of the same work for all South Africans regardless of skin color. (29 Nov 81, p. 5)

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Control Over Namibia



Puppet of
South Africa

Republic of
South Africa

(Racist Republic of South Africa: "As you can see, power in Namibia will be in the hands of the "Namibians" themselves.)

(30 Nov 81, p. 5)

Ciskei

(Excerpts) Ciskei--the fourth bantustan, as they are known in the Republic of South Africa, or areas created exclusively for African natives--was granted hollow independence by the racists. The first bantustan was Transkei, which was formed in 1976, followed by Boputhatswana in 1977, and Venda in 1979. The international community refuses to acknowledge the independence of these bantustans within the territory of South Africa as they were created solely for the purpose of denying political and economic rights to the native inhabitants of South Africa. (9 Dec 81, p. 5)

Western Collusion with Pretoria

(Excerpts) The United States and other Western imperialist powers bear the greatest responsibility for the racist Republic of South Africa's continued illegal occupation of Namibia. The fact that South Africa is a NATO military outpost in southern Africa is a major factor explaining the close relationship between the West and Pretoria. (12 Dec 81, p. 5)

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ANC Anniversary

(Excerpt) "Umkhonto We Sizwe," the military arm of the African National Congress of South Africa, celebrated its 20th Anniversary on 16 December. (17 Dec 81, p. 5)

ANC Anniversaries Noted

(Text) Celebrations at the headquarters of the United Nations marked the African National Congress' 20th Anniversary and that organization's 20th Day of Heroes. (18 Dec 81, p. 4)

Senegal

Art Exhibition

(Excerpt) An exhibit of paintings and graphic art works by young Latvian artists opened in Dakar, Senegal. (6 Dec 81, p. 1)

Seychelles

Foiled Mercenary Attack

(Excerpt) The security service of the Republic of the Seychelles has destroyed a group of armed mercenaries from the Republic of South Africa that attempted to seize power. (27 Nov 81, p. 5)

Coup Attempt

(Excerpt) The Ministry of Defense of the Republic of the Seychelles published in Victoria a communique on the subject of the attempt of mercenaries to take over the government on 26 November. (28 Nov 81, p. 5)

Goal of Attempted Coup

(Excerpt) According to UPI, one of the goals of the 26 November coup attempt by white mercenaries was the seizure of regions potentially rich in oil. UPI also claims that South Africa was in favor of the overthrow of the Rene government. (30 Nov 81, p. 5)

Extradition of Mercenaries Demanded

(Excerpt) The Republic of the Seychelles has demanded that the Republic of South Africa return the 44 mercenaries who escaped after an unsuccessful coup attempt against the Seychellois Government. (3 Dec 81, p. 5)

RSA and US Behind Coup

(Summary) On 26 November, about 100 armed mercenaries attempted a coup d'etat against the Republic of the Seychelles Government. It has been reported that the American CIA and the racists in the Republic of South Africa have been very interested in toppling President Rene's government after he declared its ultimate goal to be the creation of a socialist state. (5 Dec 81, p. 5 and translated in toto by FBIS Soviet Union Daily Report #238, 11 Dec 81, p. J2)

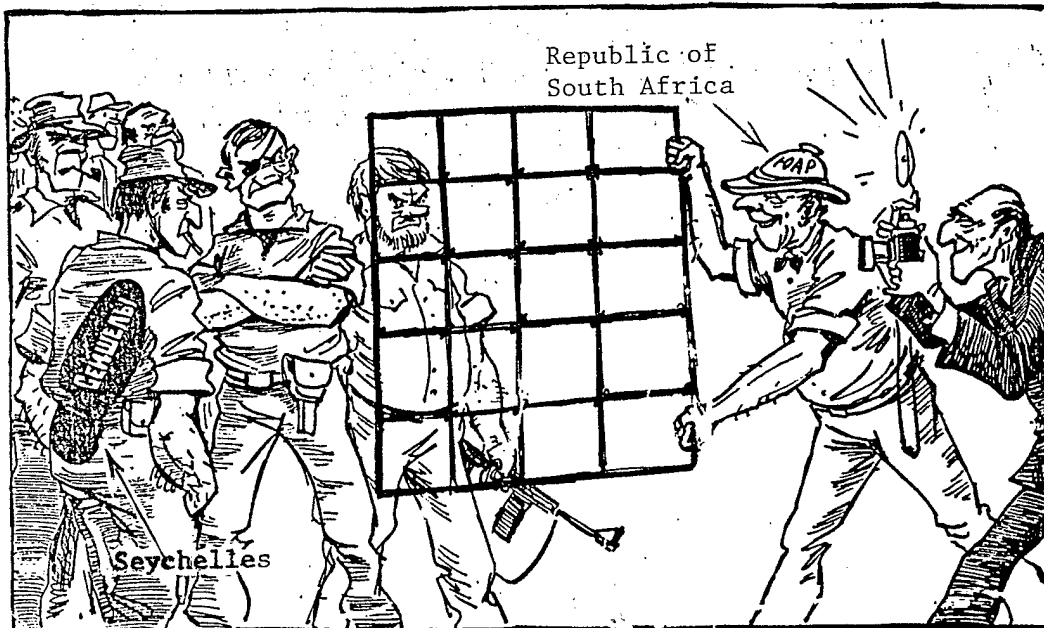
South African Involvement in the Coup

(Excerpt) A. Rene, President of the Republic of the Seychelles, announced that one of the captured mercenaries who attempted to overthrow his government was a high-ranking officer in the South African security service. (8 Dec 81, p. 5)

South African Involvement Admitted

(Excerpt) M. Malan, the South African Minister of Defense, virtually admitted that members of South Africa's Army had participated in the failed attempt to overthrow the Government of the Seychelles. (9 Dec 81, p. 5)

South Africa and the Coup Attempt



— И запомните, господа наемники, что мы к вам никакого отношения не имеем!

(And remember, Mercenary Gentlemen, that we did not have anything to do with you!)

(9 Dec 81, p. 5)

UN Coup Condemnation

(Excerpt) The UN Security Council condemned the recent aggression perpetrated by mercenaries against the Republic of the Seychelles Islands. (17 Dec 81, p. 5)

Sierra Leone

State of Emergency

(Text) S. Stevens, President of the Republic of Sierra Leone, declared a national state of emergency. (13 Dec 81, p. 1)

Tanzania

Economic Plan Approved

(Excerpt) The National Executive Committee of the Tanzanian Revolutionary Party approved the basic directions of the fourth 5-year plan (1982-86) for the development of the country. (3 Dec 81, p. 5)

Salim A. Salim Withdraws Candidacy

(Text) Tanzania's Foreign Minister, Salim A. Salim, withdrew his candidacy for the post of UN Secretary General. (10 Dec 81, p. 5)

Interparty Ties

(Excerpt) In connection with plans for party ties between the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (CPSU) and the Revolutionary Party of Tanzania, a CPSU delegation led by S. Mukashevsky, an obkom First Secretary from Kazakhstan, arrived in Tanzania. (17 Dec 81, p. 4)